

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Kindly amend the drawings, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

The attached sheet of drawings includes amendment to Figure 1. This sheet, which includes Figures 1 - 2, replaces the original sheet including Figures 1 - 2.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-10 are pending in this application. The claims have been amended by this response with claim 10 being cancelled. The reference numerals have been deleted from the claims. New claims 11-12 have been introduced by this amendment. Claims 1, 8 and 11 are independent. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the Specification of the Application as originally submitted.

No new matter has been introduced by this amendment.

II. OBJECTIONS & REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

The drawings were objected to as to showing "black boxes". The drawings have been amended as described above to overcome the objection.

Claims 6 and 8-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. However, as to claim 6, U.S. Patent No. 3,906,814 and U.S. Patent No. 5,290,979, for example, disclose control devices that can enable mechanical locking means to mechanically lock certain buttons, so as to prohibit their use. As to claims 8-9, they have been amended and claim 10 has been cancelled to overcome this rejection. Applicants therefore respectfully request withdrawal of the §112, first paragraph, rejection.

Claims 4 and 6-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

applicant regards as the invention. Claims 4, 7-9 have been amended and claim 10 has been cancelled to overcome this rejection. Applicants therefore respectfully request withdrawal of the §112, second paragraph, rejection.

III. THE REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In paragraph 8 of the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,864,765 to Barvesten ("Barvesten") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,718,240 to Suda ("Suda"). The rejections are traversed for at least the following reasons.

As recited in independent claim 1, the instant invention is directed to *inter alia*:

"A method of disabling the buttons of the keypad of a command transmitter intended to control an appliance for security and/or access control in a building, which comprises ...

... automatic disabling of at least certain buttons of the command transmitter after a command is sent, while specific buttons remain active to send at least a safety command; and

cancellation of the disabling of the buttons through a specific action on the command transmitter." (Emphasis added).

As understood by the Applicants, Barvesten relates to the activation and automatic inactivation of keys on a mobile telephone terminal keypad, wherein the terminal includes a display and key depression sensing means. A time parameter denotes the length of time that has passed since a key was last pressed and is set to zero by means adapted to this end, and counting-up of the value of the time parameter is commenced subsequent to setting the time parameter to zero. The time parameter is compared with a threshold value and automatic inactivation of the keys in the keypad is initiated immediately the time parameter exceeds the threshold value. A selected key is kept activated for activation during that time in which the keypad is in an inactivated mode, and the terminal is set to a stand-by mode. *Barvesten*, Abstract, Fig. 2.

As understood by the Applicants, Suda relates to a remote keyless entry system in which a keyless entry vehicle key fob can be toggled between a guest mode and a driver-specific mode. When the key fob is in the guest mode, the key fob transmits no driver-specific identification to a receiver located in the vehicle, so that customizable vehicle settings are changed to predetermined default or guest mode settings. When the key fob is in the driver-specific mode, the key fob transmits a driver-specific identification to the receiver, so that customizable vehicle settings are reset to driver-specific customized vehicle settings. *Suda*, Abstract.

Applicant respectfully submits that none of the cited references teach or suggest the above identified feature of claim 1. Specifically, neither Barvesten nor Suda teach or disclose a method of disabling the buttons of the keypad of a command transmitter intended to control an appliance for security and/or access control in a building, which comprises automatic disabling of at least certain buttons of the command transmitter after a command is sent, while specific buttons remain active to send at least a safety command; and cancellation of the disabling of the buttons through a specific action on the command transmitter, as recited in claim 1.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the relied upon portions of Barvesten and Suda, and is therefore allowable. For similar reasons, independent claims 8 and 11 are believed to be patentable.

The other claims are dependent from one of the claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

Statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited references represent the present opinions of the Applicants' undersigned attorney and, in the event that the

Examiner disagrees with any such opinions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the respective reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

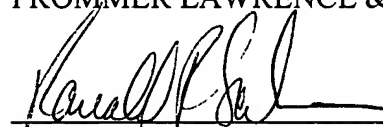
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Please charge any fees incurred by reason of this response and not paid herewith to
Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,
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